

S.N.: 10/679,576
Art Unit: 2685

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11-25, 27-31, 33, 34, and 36-38 are currently pending. Claims 32 and 35 have been cancelled. Claims 11-13 and 27-29 have been amended for clarification purposes only. To facilitate prosecution, all independent claims (i.e., claims 1, 15, 31, 34, and 37) have been amended to incorporate the indicated-as-allowable subject matter of claims 32 and 35, as provided by the Advisory Action mailed March 20, 2006. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

Applicant believes all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

The Patent Office is respectfully requested to reconsider and remove the rejections of the claims 1-9, 11-25, 27-31, 33, 34, and 36-38 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the prior art of record and to allow all of the pending claims 1-9, 11-25, 27-31, 33, 34, and 36-38 as now presented for examination. An early notification of the allowability of claims 1-9, 11-25, 27-31, 33, 34, and 36-38 is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted:

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

4-7-06 Ann Okrentowich
Date Name of Person Making Deposit